ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a computer system comprising a plurality of computers, each capable of running a given software application, and a server. A transaction arrangement is operable between each computer and the server for activating and deactivating a license for the given software application selectively at each computer. In the preferred embodiment, each computer comprises an application store for storing a copy of the given software application, and a license store for storing details of the license including license rights. The server comprises a data store for storing a serial code for the given software application, a data store for storing an identification code for any computer where the license is activated, and data store containing details of the license rights allocated to each computer. The transaction arrangement involves transmitting a request from a respective computer to the server to activate a license at that computer, a check by the server as to whether a license is available, and the transmission of a response by the server indicating the availability of the license and, if so, the license rights awarded.

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